

Ophiogomphus howei (Pygmy Snaketail)

Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: *Insecta* (Insects)

Order: *Odonata* (Dragonflies And Damselflies)

Family: *Gomphidae* (Clubtails)

General comments:

Moderate vulnerability rank in Conservation Assessment by White et al 2014; 12-13 rivers in ME

Species Conservation Range Maps for Pygmy Snaketail:

Town Map: [Ophiogomphus howei_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Ophiogomphus howei_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:

Ophiogomphus howei is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority:

Northeast Odonate Conservation Assessment:

Vulnerability: Moderate, Responsibility: Significant

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Pygmy Snaketail:

Formation Name Agricultural

Macrogroup Name Agricultural

Habitat System Name: Pasture-Hay **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Formation Name Boreal Upland Forest

Macrogroup Name Boreal Upland Forest

Habitat System Name: Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Habitat System Name: Acadian Sub-boreal Spruce Flat **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Formation Name Freshwater Aquatic

Macrogroup Name Rivers and Streams

Habitat System Name: Large River ****Primary Habitat**** **Notes:** *rocky rivers with shallow riffles and mud bottom, usually in woodlands*

Habitat System Name: Medium River ****Primary Habitat**** **Notes:** *rocky rivers with shallow riffles and mud bottom, usually in woodlands*

Habitat System Name: Small River **Notes:** *rocky rivers with shallow riffles and mud bottom, usually in woodlands*

Formation Name Northeastern Upland Forest

Macrogroup Name Northern Hardwood & Conifer

Habitat System Name: Appalachian (Hemlock)-Northern Hardwood Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Northern Hardwoods Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Pine-Hemlock-Hardwood Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

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Class: *Insecta* (Insects)Order: *Odonata* (Dragonflies And Damselflies)Family: *Gomphidae* (Clubtails)**Formation Name** **Northeastern Upland Forest****Habitat System Name:** Laurentian-Acadian Red Oak-Northern Hardwood Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)***Habitat System Name:** Northeastern Coastal and Interior Pine-Oak Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)***Formation Name** **Northeastern Wetland Forest****Macrogroup Name** **Northeastern Floodplain Forest****Habitat System Name:** Laurentian-Acadian Floodplain Systems **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)***Macrogroup Name** **Northern Swamp****Habitat System Name:** North-Central Appalachian Acidic Swamp **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)***Habitat System Name:** North-Central Interior and Appalachian Rich Swamp **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)***Habitat System Name:** Northern Appalachian-Acadian Conifer-Hardwood Acidic Swamp **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)***Stressors Assigned to Pygmy Snaketail:**

Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat **Other Options****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Lack of knowledge**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Lack of comprehensive survey effort to identify additional occurrences and determine species status**IUCN Level 1 Threat** **Biological Resource Use****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Logging and Wood Harvesting**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Intensive forestry in the shoreland zone can affect water quality and riparian habitat**IUCN Level 1 Threat** **Residential and Commercial Development****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Housing and Urban Areas**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Degradation of the riparian zone affects water quality and roosting/feeding habitat**IUCN Level 1 Threat** **Agriculture and Aquaculture****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Annual and Perennial Non-timber crops**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty**Notes:** Degradation of the riparian zone affects water quality and roosting/feeding habitat**IUCN Level 1 Threat** **Natural Systems Modifications****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Dams and Water Management-Use**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty**Notes:** Dams degrade habitat quality for many lotic species specialists**Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Pygmy Snaketail:**None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are*

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summarized here.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Riverine Odonates Guild:

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: new
Prepare a statewide atlas and conservation assessment.			

Prepare a statewide atlas and conservation assessment.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.